

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 3 and 4 as follows:

1. (Original) An ink container detachably mountable to an ink jet recording apparatus which includes a cartridge provided with a recording head and capable of detachably carrying the ink container, and includes a mechanical switch for detecting mounting of the cartridge by its displacement, said container comprising:

a bottom side which is provided with an ink supply port for supplying the ink from an inside of said container to the recording head and which takes a bottom position in use;

a substantially vertical side having an engaging portion for mounting said ink container to the cartridge;

a stepped portion, in said bottom side, forming a recess having an end which is open at said vertical side; and

a projected abutment portion, provided adjacent said vertical side in said recess, for displacing the mechanical switch.

2. (Original) An ink container according to Claim 1, wherein said projected abutment portion has a height which is smaller than a depth of said recess from a surface of said bottom side.

3. (Currently Amended) A recording apparatus comprising:

a cartridge provided with a recording head, said cartridge detachably carrying an ink container according to Claim 1;

a mechanical switch for detecting mounting by the projected abutment portion of said ink container; and

scanningly reciprocable holding means for holding the cartridge ~~on which the ink container is detachably mounted,~~

wherein the ink is ejected from the recording head ~~mounted to the~~ of said cartridge in accordance with an electric signal for ink ejection to effect recording on ~~the~~ a recording material.

4. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 3, wherein said ~~ink container detecting means~~ mechanical switch is disposed adjacent a substantially vertical wall of said holding means.